

REMARKS

Further to Applicant's prior Response, additional claims are hereby voluntarily submitted. In particular, Claims 31-39 are hereby added, and consideration of these claims is respectfully submitted. These claims are believed to further define the invention and further distinguish over the prior art. Additionally, all of Claims 31-39 are dependent claims, and as such, should be allowed upon the allowance of independent Claims 27 or 29.

With respect to Claims 31-35, these depend from independent Claim 27, and are believed to be patentably distinguishable from the prior art of record. For example, Claim 27 defines that the transmitter is provided adjacent to the road for transmitting the transmitter signal which in combination with the allowable features of independent Claim 27 provides a system which is not disclosed by the prior art of record.

As to Claim 32, this defines the detection means adjacent to the road for detecting a danger state and outputting a detection signal based on the danger state wherein the transmitter then transmits to the vehicle. Again, this system is based upon the detection of a specific danger state and not general road conditions, but rather, an indication that a danger exists, after which the structural actions of Claim 27 then take place.

Claim 33 defines that the temperature is the parameter that indicates the danger state. It is not believed that the applied prior art discloses detecting temperature and automatically effecting a speed reduction as a result of the presence of such a danger state.

Further, Claim 34 defines the transmitter as being provided at the opening portion of a tunnel or a position remote from the opening portion by a given distance. Here again, the prior art does not disclose operating the vehicle under such conditions.